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**POINT OF CONTACT:** Gene Terwilliger, Spokesperson, Naval Nuclear Laboratory  
(T) 518-395-4413 • (E) [NNLPublicAffairs@unnpp.gov](mailto:NNLPublicAffairs@unnpp.gov)

**WEBSITE:** [www.NavalNuclearLab.energy.gov](http://www.NavalNuclearLab.energy.gov)

**TWITTER:** @NavalNuclearLab

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## **NAVAL NUCLEAR LABORATORY BREAKS GROUND ON NEW \$1.65 BILLION NAVAL SPENT FUEL HANDLING FACILITY**

**Idaho Falls, Idaho (August 10, 2017)** – The Naval Nuclear Laboratory announced today that its Naval Reactors Facility (NRF), located within the Idaho National Laboratory, held a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Naval Spent Fuel Handling Facility. The event was attended by state and local elected officials, U.S. Navy personnel, company leaders and site employees.

The primary function of NRF is to receive, examine, prepare and package naval spent nuclear fuel. Building a new facility will improve long-term capacity, increase efficiency and effectiveness, and reduce long-term costs. The new facility will improve the ability of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program (NNPP) to meet long-term mission needs and anticipated future production capacities.

The estimated cost of the Spent Fuel Handling Recapitalization Project is approximately \$1.65 billion. Included in the cost is more than \$500 million for facility construction and there is projected to be an increase of approximately 350 on-site construction jobs. Site preparation is expected to begin in 2017, facility construction is expected to begin in 2019, and facility operations are expected to commence in 2024. Jacobs Field Services North America, Inc. was selected to manage the design and construction of the new facility.

Dignitaries at the ceremony included Brian McCormack, Chief of Staff, U.S. Department of Energy; Admiral Frank Caldwell, Director, NNPP; Brad Little, Lieutenant Governor of Idaho; and Congressman Michael K. Simpson (R-ID).

During the event Admiral Caldwell stated that “The Naval Spent Fuel Handling Facility will pay huge dividends for many decades to come” and Congressman Simpson noted that “this facility is long overdue and I am looking forward to when we are not just breaking ground, but cutting ribbons in the future.”



Dignitaries officially break ground for the Naval Spent Fuel Handling Facility to be built at the Naval Reactors Facility on the Idaho National Laboratory  
(from left to right): Department of Energy's Chief of Staff Brian McCormack, Idaho Lieutenant Governor Brad Little, Congressman Mike Simpson, and the Director of the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program Admiral Frank Caldwell.

**About the Naval Nuclear Laboratory**

The Naval Nuclear Laboratory is operated for the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) by Bechtel Marine Propulsion Corporation (BMPC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Bechtel National, Inc. Naval Nuclear Laboratory personnel are BMPC employees who work at four DOE facilities: Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory, Knolls Atomic Power Laboratory, Kenneth A. Kesselring Site, and Naval Reactors Facility, and at the Department of Defense-owned Nuclear Power Training Unit-Charleston. BMPC employees also have an established presence at numerous shipyard and vendor locations.

For 70 years, the Naval Nuclear Laboratory has developed advanced naval nuclear propulsion technology, provided technical support, and trained world-class nuclear operators to ensure the safe and reliable operation of our nation's submarine and aircraft carrier Fleets. The Naval Nuclear Laboratory is solely dedicated to the Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. We rely on the dedication and innovation of our 7,500 engineers, scientists, technicians and support personnel.

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